



Naturalist

This position description is intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by people in this category. It is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all responsibilities, duties and skills required of people in these positions.

Work Team:	Program
Reports To:	Program Lead, Program Manager
Position Classification:	Summer Seasonal Volunteer
Length of Service:	3-4 month commitment, May-September preferred

POSTION SUMMARY

The Naturalist is both a student and teacher of nature. The Naturalist is responsible for leading educational sessions for all ages on a variety of topics relating to the Railroad Creek Valley ecosystem and Holden's current and historical relationship to the environment. The Naturalist also supports Holden's Hike Haus in providing programs relating to outdoor skills and responsible recreation.

MAJOR FUNCTIONS (principal duties and responsibilities; such as categories supported, staff size, volume managed, etc)

Specific responsibilities include but are not limited to the following:

- Plans and leads interactive and educational programs on topics relating to the Railroad Creek Valley ecosystem.
- Plans and leads educational programs on topics relating to Holden's relationship with the natural environment.
- Provides Holden hospitality by interfacing with guests in a positive, friendly manner.
- Supports the Hike Haus in offering programs relating to outdoor safety, equipment use, and skills.
- Develops resources for guests and staff to deepen their understanding of and relationship to Holden's natural surroundings.
- Examines and makes recommendations to management in order to improve environmental stewardship and practices.

- Collaborates with Youth Program, Art Studio Technicians, Ceramic Studio Technician, and Worship team to develop nature-related programs across the Village.
- Supervises Hike Haus Head; supports Hike Haus operations as necessary.
- Is responsive to communications from supervisor and attends weekly 1:1 with Program Lead.
- Attends weekly Program team meetings.
- Updates Naturalist HoldenStack and Z:Drive files.
- Assists in other aspects of the Program team's work and other departments at the discretion of the Program Lead.
- Other duties as assigned.

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS REQUIREMENTS (position specifications; such as knowledge/education, skills, problem solving/decision making, risk/bottom line results, management responsibility – people and functions)

Specific knowledge and skills include but are not limited to the following:

- Background or education in Environmental Science, Biology, Ecology or related field highly preferred.
- Experience in outdoor ventures such as hiking, climbing, camping, foraging, fishing, and birding preferred.
- First Aid/CPR certification or Wilderness First Aid certification preferred.
- Experience managing staff/volunteers or working on teams preferred.
- Demonstrated ability and enthusiasm for learning new material related to local flora, fauna, and ecosystems.
- Demonstrated ability to create and implement engaging lesson plans.
- Demonstrated public speaking abilities.
- Demonstrated interpersonal skills; enthusiasm for and ability to interact with all ages.
- Demonstrated ability to work independently, take initiative, and be proactive.
- Strong awareness of safety and liability; ability to respond to emergencies.
- Sound judgement, creativity, problem solving, flexibility, and decision-making abilities.
- Willingness to work flexible hours, including evenings.
- Ability to see the "big picture" and be proactive.
- Able to lift and move equipment and supplies; able to stand for long periods of time.

COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS (particular knowledge/skills related to client and/or agency needs)

- Has enthusiasm for, and ability to work in, a remote wilderness setting.
- Commits to work in ways that support and fulfill Holden Village's Mission, Vision, and Values and commits to the terms of the Community of Practice Agreement.
- Extends genuine hospitality to all Villagers and guests; Helps new staff and volunteers integrate into the community.
- Upholds and works to further Holden Village values of diversity, equality, respect, sustainability, and spirituality as articulated in the Strategic Plan.

- Undertakes Work of the Village including dish team, garbology, and wood chaining.
- Abides by Holden Village's Community Health Protocols and Practices.
- Commits to staying up-to date on all required vaccinations.

COMPENSATION & BENEFITS

As a Summer Seasonal Volunteer, you are eligible for the following benefits:

- \$350/month stipend
- Food (three meals/day)
- Housing & utilities
- Free parking at Fields Point
- Boat tickets commensurate with length of commitment
- Out days commensurate with length of commitment
- Friends & family days commensurate with length of commitment
- Access to amazing hiking opportunities, community events, teaching sessions, art studios and other educational opportunities!